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lege training should undertake. When the physical sciences came to something like man's estate and their educational value was recognized, they found their place as a matter of course in the curriculum.

It is the spirit of a genuine patriotism, too, which sounds through the plain, strong language regarding the abuses of the pension system and the vigorous defense of civil-service reform.

The style of these papers is altogether commendable. The themes treated do not always demand originality of thought. But even the inevitable commonplaces are made interesting. There is a sustained dignity of expression, but never frigidity; and the language, when its march is stateliest, is temperate and lucid.

CHICAGO, ILL.

A. K. PARKER.

THE GROWTH OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD. By SIDNEY L. GULICK, M.A. New York, Chicago, and Toronto: F. H. Revell Co., 1897. Pp. xv + 320. Cloth, \$1.50.

THE author is an American Congregational missionary in Japan. From "an address delivered to an audience of wide-awake Japanese young men" has grown this treatise. The thesis is: "The kingdom of God on earth is growing." It controverts the assertion so often made, not only by non-Christians, but even by Christians, that the religion of Christ is losing power. Outside the church men are fast bound in the spirit of this world, and even within the church the spirit of Christ is manifestly declining. A true view of the world shows plainly that it is growing worse and worse. Unless the reader of this book is wedded beyond reclaim to his pessimistic theory, he will rise from the perusal of its pages a converted man. If solid tables of statistics and uncontrovertible facts of history can carry conviction to a reasonable mind, then of four things Mr. Gulick's book gives abundant and convincing proof, viz.: "(1) The growing number of those who claim to believe the teachings of Jesus; (2) the increasing understanding of the contents of those teachings by those who claim to believe them; (3) the increasing obedience to the spirit taught by Christ; and (4) the increasing influence of those teachings and that spirit, even on those who make no claim to believe or follow them."

Christians who take a lugubrious view of the moral state of the church and the world, and infidels who join them in preaching a gospel of despair, will find abundant material for reflection in the statistical evidences of the growth of Christianity. But if these objectors waive

these statistics aside as indicating mere numerical increase, and as not touching the heart of the matter, then Mr. Gulick is prepared, in the second division of his subject, to show that the growth in the comprehension of Christianity is quite as remarkable as the growth in numbers. If objectors still insist that numbers count for little when we are judging of the advance or decadence of vital religion, and that even an increasing intellectual acquaintance with Christian truth is no certain sign of its growing power in the earth, then Mr. Gulick is ready, in his third division, to show, in a great variety of convincing ways, that Christians are not only knowing more, but that they are also living better, than ever before. Not only are their philosophy and theology better, their character and conduct are also better. There is a growing knowledge of the plan and purpose of Christ, and there is likewise a growing realization of his plan and purpose in consecrated, useful lives. The last refuge of objectors is removed when Mr. Gulick, in the fourth division, adds the growth in influence to the growth in numbers, in comprehension, and in practice. The influence of Christ's spirit and teaching on the unsaved world is increasingly profound and far-reaching. Doubting and desponding saints would do well to revive their drooping spirits by a thoughtful reading of these suggestive pages.

ERI B. HULBERT.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

RELIGION FOR TODAY. By MINOT J. SAVAGE. Boston: G. H. Ellis, 1897. Pp. 250. Cloth, \$1.

THE characteristics of Dr. Savage's thought and style are already so familiar that it would be superfluous to describe them at length. Utterly fearless in thought and frank in utterance, he is one of the important forces that are now shaping popular religious thought in America. We cannot help respecting a man who gives us clearly and unequivocally his entire thought upon any religious topic, whether it win our acceptance or not. Dr. Savage keeps nothing back, and never for a single instance is his meaning in doubt. Perhaps it is in this very definiteness and sharp-edgedness that both the strength and the weakness of his thought are to be found. Many evangelical believers would object stoutly to his statements of their belief, and undoubtedly, in many instances, the exception would be well taken. Certainly a belief that after the crucifixion Christ suffered in hell all the pangs that